

**APPROVED**  
**Cedar Area Fire & Rescue Board**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Thursday, July 15, 2021 at 7:00 pm**  
**Cedar Fire Department**

Call to Order

Chair Greg Julian called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present on roll call were Greg Julian, Rick Royston, John DePuy, Ron Schaub and Chris Comeaux. Andy Doornbos and Dana Boomer were present as staff.

Discussions/decisions will be for the direction of the Cedar Area Fire & Rescue Board as previously published, per the Open Meetings Act. Potential quorums of township boards will be noted in the minutes.

Citizens Comments – None

Consideration of Agenda – The board briefly discussed the agenda. **Motion by Royston to approve the agenda as presented, second by Comeaux. All in favor, motion carried.**

Minutes: Approval of June 17, 2021 General Meeting Minutes – The board briefly discussed. **Motion by DePuy to approve the June 17, 2021 General Meeting Minutes as presented, second by Schaub. All in favor, motion carried.**

Correspondence Received – The draft audit was received from Gabridge this morning. The board will review and discuss in August.

Financials –

Boomer had previously provided a handout to the board which detailed the financial statements for June. The beginning cash balance in the operating fund as of June 1 was \$137,683.26 and the ending cash balance as of June 30 was \$66,973.36. Income for the month was \$9,275.01. The vendors' payables were \$35,787.76. The June payrolls were \$22,512.87 on 6/9, \$19,989.41 on 6/22, and \$1,694.87 on 6/25.

The board briefly discussed the vendors payable and payroll. The updated unpaid bills detailed list was presented, and briefly discussed.

**Royston moved to accept the June vendors payable as presented, Schaub seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

Boomer stated that the department has not yet received the Blue Cross Blue Shield bill for the month, and she was unsuccessful in retrieving it from online. The board had consensus that there was a resolution in place that allowed Julian and Schaub to sign checks in between meetings for bills that would otherwise be late.

**Royston moved to accept the June payrolls as presented, DePuy seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

**Royston moved to accept the June financial statements as presented, Schaub seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

Unfinished Business:

- a. Paramedic Program – Doornbos reported that the Munson paramedic program is still scheduled to start July 26, 2021, attended by Lt. Voiles and FF Maus. They will be attending class Monday and Thursday. The department is working to schedule coverage for those shifts. This item will be removed from the agenda and further information will be presented in the chief report as needed.
- b. Floor/Drain Work – Doornbos is working to get bids from commercial contractors for the complete project and permitting. No bids or estimates have been received; he has been having a hard time contacting contractors.
- c. Union Negotiating Update/MOU Consideration – Julian and Royston reported that they have met with the union. Another meeting will be set when Doornbos returns. One draft MOU was presented to the board, regarding the ability of the board to set a hiring bonus.

**DePuy moved, Comeaux seconded to direct Greg Julian to sign the memorandum of understanding for July 2021 as presented to the board. All in favor, motion carried.**

- d. 2022/23 Budget – There were no changes to the 2022/23 budget prior to the meeting. The board and staff briefly discussed. Schaub and Doornbos will discuss prior to the August meeting and public hearing to work out any final details.
- e. Full-Time Employee Open Position – Doornbos stated that the job posting was made after the June meeting. There were two applicants – one internal and one external. The internal candidate was Jeff Friend, a medic who has been part-time with the department for over a decade. Doornbos recommends the hiring of Friend, as it will speed up the transition of the department to ALS status through the Bennett Bill, and Friend has already acted as a mentor to the medic students on the department. Friend lives in the service area. Comeaux and DePuy have both worked with Friend as a medic and recommend his hiring. **DePuy moved, Schaub seconded to hire Jeff Friend as a full-time employee of Cedar Fire as of 7/16/2021. All in favor, motion carried.**

## New Business:

- a. Any New Business – None

## Reports:

- a. Fire Chief – The Chief's Report was provided in the meeting packet. Doornbos summarized the main points of his report. The chief and board discussed the report. There has been corrosion and bubbling paint noticed on the new ambulance. The quote received was for \$32,000, as the entire box needs to be repainted. This work is under warranty. Halt Fire, when they come next week to work on the engine, will then take the ambulance back downstate to strip, fix and paint the box. The ambulance will likely be gone for a couple of months. The board had consensus that a loaner ambulance be requested, so as to reduce the wear and tear on 892. The board was adamant that a loaner ambulance be received; Doornbos will pass this along to Halt.
- b. Department Staff – None
- c. Chairman – Julian reported that Cleveland Township has now discussed the possibility of a new fire station at their board meeting. The board commented favorably on this possibility. Julian and Stein discussed further, and a committee is in the process of being formed between the two townships.

## Citizens Comments – None

Board Member & Chair Comments – Julian reported that there is new equipment on the playground next to the station, and thanked the crew for their assistance in the assembling of that equipment. DePuy stated that he will not be present at the September meeting. The intersection of M-72 and Maple City Road is seeing a large amount of traffic, and it looks like a traffic study may be done.

The Glen Lake Fire & Rescue Association is holding their annual pancake breakfast on July 18 from 8-12.

Next Meeting Date – The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 7 pm.

**With no further business, Schaub moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 pm, Royston seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Boomer  
Recording Secretary